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each unit of the littoral zone, but they act upon a broader zone and they are competent to move larger masses."

Under the head of littoral deposition the origin of embankments, spits, bars, hooks, loops, wave-built terraces, V-terraces, V-bars and of dunes is discussed.

The third section is devoted to the distribution of wave-wrought shore features; a fourth section to stream work and deltas. In a fifth section ice work and shore walls on lakes are described. After referring briefly in section six to the effects of submergence and emergence on the phenomena under consideration, attention is called in the seventh section to the discrimination of shore features, under the head of cliffs, fault scarps, terraces, fault terraces, etc., and ridges, the latter being contrasted with moraines and osars. Fig. 2 gives a good idea of the remarkable fault-scarps at Farmington, Utah. The eighth and last section relates to the recognition of ancient shores.

The essay is upon a subject of very general interest, every geologist having his attention drawn to the phenomena which the author explains. A similar work based on sea-shores would be of still wider interest and importance, though some attention is given to the subject in our leading text-books on geology.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Noetling, —.—Descriptions of three species of fossil fishes of the genera Ginglymostoma, Odontaspis and Squatina. Ext. Proc. Gesell. naturforschender Freunde., Feb., 1886. From the author.

Putnam, C. E.—Elephant pipes and inscribed tablets in the Museum of Davenport, Iowa. 1886. From the author.

Dugès, E.—Métamorphoses d'une Corydalis. Ext. du Bull. d. l. Soc. Zool. de France, 1885.

Foote, A. E.—Regla Basalt and el Chico. Naturalist's Leisure Hour, April, 1886. From the author.

Frazer, P.—The work of the International Congress of Geologists and its Committees 1886.

——A new application of the principle of composite photography to the identification of handwriting. Rep. Jour. Franklin Inst., 1886. Both from the author.

Walling, H. F.—Topographic surveys of States. Read bef. Boston Soc. Civil Eng., Feb., 1886. From the author.

Roger, O.—Kleine paläontologische Mittheilungen. From the author.

Renevier, E.—Resultats scientifiques du Congrès Géologique international de Berlin. Lausanne, 1886. From the author.

Van Beneden, P. J.—Les Cétacés des mers d'Europe. Bruxelles, 1885. From the author.

Winchell, A.—Science and the State. Rep. from "The Forum."

——Sources of trend and crustal surplusage in mountain structure. Ext. Proc. Amer. Assoc. Adv. Sci., Vol. XXXIV, 1885.

——Ditto ditto from the Amer. Jour. Science.

——Thoughts on science teaching. From the Fortnightly Index, July 12, 1884. All from the author.

Boulenger, G. A.—A reply to M. de Batta's Remarks on *Rana temporaria*. Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1886.

——Description of a new frog of the genus Megalophrys. Ext. Proc. Zool. Soc., 1885. Both from the author.

Shufeldt, R. W.—Outlines for a museum of anatomy. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1885.

——The skeleton of Geococcyx. From the Journal of Anatomy and Physiology, London, Jan., 1886. Both from the author.

Scudder, S. H.—Nomenclator Zoölogicus. Bull. U. S. National Museum, No. 19, Washington, 1882–1884.

——Systematische Uebersicht der fossilen Myriopoden, Arachnoiden und Insekten. 1885. Both from the author.

Lydekker, R.—Catalogue of the fossil Mammalia in the British Museum. Part II. Ungulata Artiodactyla. London, 1885.

——On the occurrence of the crocodilian genus Tomistoma in theMiocene of Malta.

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GENERAL NOTES.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.[1]

ASIA.—*Tong-king.*—The April number of the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society contains a map of Tong-king, accompanied by an article upon the hill region which lies beyond the delta of the Song-coi. The writer (Mr. I. G. Scott) states that though the Song-coi is a noble-looking river, boats drawing over fifteen feet cannot ascend its Cua Cam mouth to Haiphong, while boats drawing six feet have difficulty in reaching Ha-noi. There are four principal mouths, of which the Cua Cam is the most northern, but it seems probable that the Cua Dai (the most southern) will shortly be made use of for deep-sea ships. The provinces of Kwung-yen, Lang-son, Cao-bang, Thai-nguyen and Tuyen-kwan form the plateau region, north of the Song-coi delta. This is a land of rounded, grassy hills, without prominent peaks.

The delta is rapidly extending. When Ha-noi was built by the Chinese in the eighth century, it was a sea-port, but is now a hundred miles inland. Two centuries ago Hung-yen was on the coast, and was the site of the Dutch and Portuguese factories. It is now thirty miles inland. Our author declares that Lang-son is, geographically and ethnographically, Chinese. It is on the Chinese slope and is separated from the rest of Tong-king by a barren mountain belt fifty miles in width. Some remarkable cave-temples exist near the town.

The Survey of Japan.—During the last five years the National Survey of Japan has been steadily progressing under the superintendence of Dr. Naumann, who has now left the task to be carried out by the Japanese he has trained. An account of the work performed may be found in *Nature* (April 29th, 1886). The survey was based mainly on economical considerations, and started with topographical, geological and agronomical departments. A chemical section was added. The existence of Devonian, Carboniferous, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous and Tertiary rocks was

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[1] This department is edited by W. N. LOCKINGTON, Philadelphia.